

Sally - pt on Dan Winter's file

FILE NOTE

NOTE OF A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ULSTER SOCIETY ON FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER IN STORMONT CASTLE

Present: Mr D Trimble, MP ) Ulster Society  
Mr R Hanna )  
Mrs D Brown )  
Mr S Corbett ) CCRU  
Mr J Carson )

1. The meeting was in response to a letter from CCRU which asked if the Ulster Society was still committed to pursuing the development of a Museum at the Diamond, Loughgall, following an approach to CCRU by the newly formed Dan Winter Heritage Trust (DWHT).
2. Mr Trimble explained that following an approach to the US by the DWHT, in April of this year, to nominate 2 members to the Trust, the US had responded seeking additional information. The US still awaited a response to this enquiry. Furthermore the US had heard that Des Mitchell, Armagh District Council, would be interested in meeting with them to discuss their continued involvement in the project. Mr Trimble indicated that the society would follow this up.
3. After discussion the US stated that they had not formally dropped their proposal but unless/until the present issues with the DWHT were dealt with they were unable to proceed. The US were willing to explore all possibilities with DWHT but, according to Mr Trimble, were being frustrated by the Trust's failure to respond. The US accepted that CCRU had no role to play in this matter.
4. Finally, it was noted that unless an acceptable proposal came forward very soon, either with or without US support, then it was unlikely that the project would be completed in 1995 to mark the Orange Order's bicentenary anniversary. Mr Trimble agreed to keep CCRU informed of developments.

*J Carson*

J A CARSON  
*gh* NOVEMBER 1994

CS-CARS-30742

FROM: MR J A CARSON  
2nd NOVEMBER 1994

TO: MR S CORBETT S.  
2 / ..  
DAN WINTER'S COTTAGE ..

1. You, Mrs Brown and myself are due to have a meeting with D Trimble, MP and Ronnie Hanna, Ulster Society on Friday 4 November at 10.45 am in Stormont Castle to discuss the Ulster Society's involvement in the development of the Diamond area (Dan Winter's Cottage).
2. This meeting is in response to a letter (13/9/94) from CCRU asking if the US is still committed to pursuing the establishment of a museum and educational centre at the Diamond and follows an earlier approach by the Dan Winter Heritage Trust about the possibility of financial assistance for a proposed Dan Winter heritage centre.
3. I attach a background note for information.
4. Glad to discuss.

John

J A CARSON

Mr. Carson -  
Please prepare a brief  
note of today's meeting  
for the file. S. 4/11.

CS:CARS:30464

## DAN WINTER'S COTTAGE(S)

### BACKGROUND NOTE

1. In July 1991 the Ulster Society applied for grant under the EC's Physical and Social Environment Programme towards the provision of a Heritage Centre at Dan Winter's cottage, Loughall where the Orange Order was founded.
2. The aim of the Centre is to provide an information and educational facility on the history of the Orange Order and its impact on Protestant heritage.
3. Progress in purchasing the cottages and adjoining land has been problematic and the Ulster Society has run into objections from both the Planning and Roads Service, DOE. The main obstacle, however, has been a dispute between two branches of the Winter family over ownership of the land for the proposed site of the Diamond Heritage Centre. In addition Armagh District Council's use of compulsory purchase powers on behalf of the Ulster Society has halted due to the dispute over ownership.
4. In 1994 the Dan Winter Heritage Trust was formed following the Ulster Society's attempt to have the property vested. The Trust has no formal link with the Ulster Society, although it has invited the Society to be represented on the Trust.
5. Two of the members of the Trust are Mr Ian Paisley Jnr and Mr Frazer Agnew and along with Mr Colin Winter met with the Central Community Relations Unit in August 1994 to discuss the Trust's proposal for a Heritage Centre at Dan Winter's cottage.
6. Mr Colin Winter is the owner of cottage A and the adjoining land, see Annex 1. (His aunt owns cottage B and adjoining land.) The Trust propose to lease the property from Mr Winter. The Trust's

development plan relates to a smaller area than the Ulster Society's, though the entrance might require new sight-lines taking some land from the aunt's property.

7. The Trust has not yet applied for planning permission for their proposal. The only problem they envisage concerns sight-lines along the approach road, and Mr Paisley is to meet Mr Winter's aunt to seek her agreement to any necessary modifications to her property.
8. The Trust advised CCRU that the DOE has listed cottage A for its historical significance as Dan Winter's cottage (not on architectural or other grounds), having accepted the evidence presented to it to this effect - DOEn, Historic Monuments, are still to confirm this with us.
9. Regarding financial assistance for the project, Mr Canavan advised that there would not be enough money in CCRU's own budget, but that the Trust should consider applying for PSEP assistance under the CR sub-programme, which might provide up to 75% of the costs. The Trust would have to raise the balance from other sources such as the Orange Order, Armagh District Council, etc. Under this sub-programme the Trust would have to comply with PSEP conditions regarding cross-community access and cross-community management. The Trust should also explore the possibility of assistance under the Tourism sub-programme, which might face less heavy demand. A feasibility study should include projections for the long-term financial viability of the Centre.
10. Mr Canavan also advised the Trust to approach the Museums Council for advice, co-operation and assistance.
11. Mr Agnew claimed that most members of the Ulster Society's Board now accepted the authenticity of Colin Winter's cottage and wanted to abandon their original scheme. David Trimble MP was, however, holding out.

See  
Source?

12. Since the August meeting CCRU (J Carson) has met with Ian Paisley Jnr, Frazer Agnew and Colin Winter to discuss a possible application, from the Trust, under PSEP II. A formal application is expected, in due course, and the Trust may also include an application under the Tourism programme.

JC:30421

ANNEX

